Native Prairie UPDATE

VOLUME 14 - SPRING 2002

Hello Prairie Stewards!

And welcome to the over 220 new voluntary stewards who joined us over the past year! We now boast over 770 voluntary stewards who have made stewardship agreements to conserve over 320,000 acres of native prairie.

It's going to be a very busy summer for SWCC this year. Our staff will be visiting landowners around Saskatchewan, with specific emphasis in the Frenchman River Watershed, the Missouri Coteau, the Qu'Appelle River Watershed, and the Upper Assiniboine Watershed. We will also be holding a number of field days this summer (please see the Upcoming Events section on the back page) and we hope to see you there!

Included with this edition of the Prairie Update, is a copy of our newest publication "A Land Manager's Guide to Grassland Birds of Saskatchewan". This guide not only provides landowners with basic information on the identification, habitat, and biology of grassland birds, but it also provides information on how pasture management can influence them. We hope you enjoy this new publication.

We still have some space available for anyone interested in borrowing our small hand-held seed harvester and/or our pull-behind 4-foot seed harvester (works behind a small tractor or ATV). If you would like to try collecting native seed that you can use to seed back some of your own land to native species, then give me a call at 787-8707.

If you have any questions or comments about anything you read in the Prairie Update, or if you have suggestions for articles you would like to see, please give us a call, write us a letter, or send an email. We'd love to hear from you.

If you are attending the Western Canada Farm Progress Show in Regina from June 19 to 21, please stop by our booth to say hello! We will be in Exhibit Mall, booth 1102.

P.S. You'll all be happy to know that Lesley is enjoying spending time at home with Ben, whom we welcomed into this world on March 26th, 2002.

-Jennifer Lohmeyer

Pipeline Allows Producers to Make Better Use of Grass

by Doug Elsasser

Dwane Morvik

The Morvik sheep ranch takes in the gently sloping bottom and rugged sides of the Frenchman River Valley near Eastend, Saskatchewan. Sheltered from the worst prairie winds, and close to a reliable source of water, this very picturesque 1000-acre operation has been home to Dwane and Jaime Morvik for almost 17 years.

The Morviks raise Targhee sheep on native grass and tame forage. Owing to a lack of rain in recent years, their flock now stands at 300 breeding ewes and 100 ewe yearlings for replacement. They also keep about a dozen rams, all obtained at auction in Miles City, Montana. Almost half of the flock is moved to the government-operated Tompkins Sheep Pasture each summer.

Like other cattle and sheep ranchers along the Frenchman River, the Morviks are fortunate to have irrigated alfalfa fields in the valley bottom. This high quality forage is cut and baled to feed their wintering sheep and a herd of 15 beef cows.

When I visited the Morviks in late January, the Frenchman valley slopes were mantled in fresh snow. The snow was very welcome, despite temperatures of -28C. As we waited for Dwane to come in from feeding the sheep, Jaime explained how lambing season 2002 was shaping up.

"It looks like one batch this year, as opposed to two batches of lambs in April and May like last year, so it's a good thing you didn't come at lambing time," said Jaime. She was smiling, but I got the message.

Lambing is a very hectic time for sheep producers, and Jaime, who works full-time as the secretary of Eastend School, expects to be very busy.

The Morviks' children: Matthew, 13, and Emily, 9, are also part of the lambing team.

The Morviks' flock of white-faced Targhee sheep are known as a dual purpose breed. This means that they are raised for both wool and meat.

"We used to raise Rambouillet, but switched to Targhee because they have a better carcass," said Dwane. He was just in from feeding the ewes and the three guard dogs that always stay with them.

Despite low wool prices, which have dropped from $1.25 per pound to around 25 cents, the Morviks continue to shear their sheep each year around the middle of March. They hire shearers to shear the flock. Each fleece, weighing 10 or 12 pounds, is thrown on a carding table where the soiled wool or "dags" are pulled off and kept separate. Then the clean fleece is placed in a wool press and compacted into large sacks that weigh 350-400 pounds each.

Morviks' young ewes are bred as yearlings and have their first lambs as two-year-olds. *"With the drought, our carrying capacity is maxed out at 400 head,"* noted Dwane. *"One of the ways we want to improve the operation is to have the ewes on tame grass and near water when they are lambing in early spring."*

Known as "grass lambing," this method allows the ewe/lamb pair a better chance to bond and begin nursing without interference from other ewes. The interference of other lambing ewes, very common when many of them are kept together in a practise called "shed lambing," adds a great deal of aggravation to an already hectic situation.

"With shed lambing, if you are not constantly there to watch them, some aggressive ewes will claim some or all of the new born lambs. And their real mothers, especially the young ones, will stand back and watch," explained Jaime. *"Unless you are there to physically take the ewe and the lamb to a lambing jug,' or small pen where the two can bond, you don't know who belongs to whom."*

"Lambing on grass is more natural and a lot less work than shed lambing," confirmed Dwane.

Looking to make better use of their 800 acres of sheep pasture, especially some over-grazed and trampled native grass close to the river, Dwane and Jaime contacted Neal Wilson, with the Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation. Wilson assessed the ranch and suggested a solution that was agreeable to the Morviks.

"The way it was, the ewes and their lambs had to walk about half a mile from the top pasture to water in the river. Then they tended to stay as close to the water as possible," said Wilson. The result was too much use of the native grass, and very light grazing pressure on a top field seeded to crested wheat grass, meadow brome and alfalfa about six years ago.

To help improve the Morviks' grazing system and create a new lambing pasture, SWCC agreed to share the cost of a water distribution demonstration project.

"After talking things over with Neal, we decided to put a pumping station in the river and run an underground pipeline to points in our tame forage pasture on top of the valley," said Dwane.

Hiring a RM grader to ditch the stoney ground, Morvik installed almost a mile of 1.5 inch PVC pipe that was buried in November, 2001. When attached to a powerful electric pump, the pipeline will deliver river water to three portable troughs each equipped with a floating switch to keep them filled.

"The pipeline will allow us to make better use of the grass," said Dwane. Morvik intends to fence the 200 acres of former crop land into five or six paddocks. *"It's a real improvement and we were happy to get it all in the ground last fall,"* he said.

The Morviks, who sell their annual crop of lambs to feedlot operators in September, expect the new water distribution system will help them to raise heavier animals on grass.

"The lambs won't have to walk far following the ewes to water, and the ewes will be on better pasture, so it should work out really well," predicted Dwane.

Looking further down the road, the Morviks plan to extend their pipeline to a larger section of native pasture so it too can be better managed with cross fences and rotational grazing. ■

New Sign

Randy Piller of Neudorf, Saskatchewan holds our new Prairie Stewardship sign. Randy is working with SWCC on developing a riparian improvement project on his land.

Good Range Management and Conservation go Hand-in-Hand Says Producer

by Doug Elsasser

Garry and Chad Nicholas

"There have been burrowing owls on our north pasture as long as I can remember," remarked Garry Nicholas. In heavily cultivated parts of southern Saskatchewan, these tiny owls are closely linked with remaining patches of native prairie.

Garry and Florence Nicholas have a mixed farming operation on the edge of the Regina plains near Milestone. They are known in the cattle business for two purebred lines: Polled Herefords and Gelbvieh. *"My dad raised Herefords all along,"* said Garry. *"Then, in 1994, when my son Chad was still out in Lethbridge, we decided to give Gelbvieh a try."*

The Nicholas's now have 50 registered Gelbvieh cows and 90 registered Hereford cows that they pasture on 1600 acres of native range. Another 1400 acres are managed to produce crops of grain. Each year they raise about 30 bull calves, about 15 of each breed, that are sold as yearlings or two-year-old bulls. Garry credits word-of-mouth advertising and a favourable exchange rate for strong sales to Montana ranches in the past ten years.

Cattle grazing aside, Garry Nicholas and his family enjoy seeing wildlife on their native range. *"The burrowing owls seem to come back to our north pasture year after year because there are quite a few gophers there and the owls like to nest in the old gopher holes,"* he explained. Needing an almost constant supply of food, burrowing owls breed and raise their young on the Canadian prairies, then fly south to Texas and Mexico for the winter.

The Nicholas's 120-acre "north pasture" was one of the first nesting sites identified in a wildlife conservation project called Operation Burrowing Owl. Landowners who choose to participate by voluntarily conserving habitat are given an attractive personalized sign. Now boasting 460 landowner stewards, Operation Burrowing Owl (OBO) celebrated its 15th anniversary last year.

Operation Burrowing Owl's success is largely due to good relationships with landowners who conserve owl habitat. In 2001 a Prairie Outreach summer student visited landowners to see how the burrowing owls were doing.

"Last year the student counted six pairs of owls on the north pasture, some with as many as ten young," said Garry Nicholas. *"But the year before she only saw two pairs. When it's dry, they do well. But when it's really wet, like in 2000 and the year before, the adult owls don't seem to hunt food for their young ones."*

Garry remembers the period of May 15 to July 1, 1999 as being one of the wettest on record.

"We had close to 19 inches of rain in about six weeks, a heavy thunder shower or two every week. I think the young owls basically drowned that year," he said.

Heavy rains in 1999 and 2000 also raised the water table and intensified the Nicholas's problems with soil salinity. Referring to a half section of crop land adjacent to 300 acres of native pasture south of their main yard, Garry said, *"To keep farming it, we are slowly losing it..."*

Garry and his son Chad, who has recently moved back to the farm with his wife Carrie and their young daughter Emma, had initially addressed the salinity problem by seeding the worst spots to slender wheat grass. They have since decided to convert the entire half section from crop land to permanent forage.

"Grain's not worth a lot of money, but the cattle business is," said Garry. *"And we need the feed."* After admitting that he doesn't need a lot of cows to look after at his age, Garry indicated that Chad would soon be making more farming decisions. *"We are hoping that Chad will take the place over, and this is the way he wanted to go."*

After graduating from the University of

Saskatchewan and taking jobs in Lethbridge and Swift Current, where he continues to work for Cargill Grain, Chad Nicholas is glad to be back on the land.

As we sat down to a cup of coffee in his grandfather's renovated farm house, Chad explained how the Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation (SWCC), in co-operation with OBO, had proposed a conservation project that would help him to convert saline crop land to tame pasture, improve his cattle watering system, and make better use of his native rangeland.

"This whole project is a great opportunity to do some things that are, conservationally, the correct things to do," said Chad. *"It's tough always to find the dollars to do these things, but luckily good range management and conservation goes hand in hand, it really does."*

Working with SWCC technical advisor Ross Macdonald, Nicholas intends to seed most of the saline half-section to meadow brome, intermediate wheat grass, and a little alfalfa. Where alkali "burn-outs" are worst, he will plant slender and tall wheat grasses.

"Once the new grass is established we will cross-fence and manage the tame forage more intensively," said Chad.

Water development is also key to this project. With help from the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA), a new dugout was constructed in January 2002. This water supply will be fenced to exclude cattle and equipped with a solar pump.

"We are going to do a bit of a pipeline, as well, to distribute the water more evenly on the section. This will give us a more workable unit, and allow us to defer grazing off our native range by having the tame forage there to work with in the spring," said Chad.

The practise of resting native prairie while it is growing in May and June, then grazing it heavily for a short period of time, is seen as beneficial by range managers. To accomplish this, Chad plans to cross-fence his native range into three 100-acre paddocks and put cattle in by the middle of July. Rotating the cattle every few weeks will simulate the temporary grazing of roaming herds of bison that used to inhabit this land.

"One of the native grasses we have, called Indian Salt Grass, is most palatable to cattle from mid-July on," said Chad, *"so deferring grazing until July when the grass is best is also a good fit."*

Converting marginal crop land to tame forage is probably a good move for any cattle producer. But in the case of the Nicholas farm, where worsening soil salinity has already harmed water available to their cattle, the problem is becoming extreme.

"We had to pump out a million gallon dugout by the yard because the water was too salty," said Chad. *"It tested 4800 ppm total sulfates, salty enough to cause vitamin B problems in the cattle unless we fed a Thiamine supplement. We pumped it out and replaced it with fresh water from my uncle's farm down the road. So planting forage and anything else that lowers the water table around here is going to help."*

To qualify for a Burrowing Owl Habitat Enhancement project like the Nicholas's, interested landowners are required to own native prairie within five kilometres of an active or formerly active burrowing owl nest site. In 2001, 13 such habitat enhancement projects were approved in Saskatchewan. Each project involves returning crop land to pasture and/or improving pastures through fencing and water development. ■

Loggerhead Shrike / Burrowing Owl Habitat Enhancement Program

The Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation and Nature Saskatchewan are offering a joint program to improve habitat for Loggerhead Shrikes and Burrowing Owls. Enhancement activities will include, but are not limited to: seeding cultivated areas to pasture, planting shrubs, fencing, and water development. 50% of the project cost is to be supplied by the landowner. In order to qualify for this program, the following requirements must be met:

- The cropland to be seeded must be within 3 miles of an active Burrowing Owl nest or must be nearby to habitat that currently supports Loggerhead Shrikes.
- The seed mix used must not contain smooth brome (meadow brome is acceptable), crested wheatgrass, sweet clover, or more than 10% alfalfa.
- The seeded area is to be used for pasture (not hay).
- The land must remain in pasture for 10 years.

The level of assistance provided is subject to available funds. The maximum level of assistance is $25/acre for seeding to a maximum of $5000 per applicant. To apply, or for more information, call Jennifer Lohmeyer at (306) 787-8707.

Support for this program is provided by: The Government of Canada through the Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk, Saskatchewan Environment through the Fish and Wildlife Development Fund, Environment Canada through the EcoAction Community Funding Program.

Loggerhead Shrike

Vermeulen Family Contributes to Piping Plover Recovery Efforts

by Doug Elsasser

Mark and Grant Vermeulen

The Vermeulen family farm south of Ceylon, Saskatchewan is a large enterprise dedicated to both grain and cattle production.

Brothers Mark and Grant, now in their early 30s, have formed a business partnership under the watchful eyes of their parents Ron and Carol Vermeulen. Their grandfather established the farm before the second world war. When I visited the Vermeulen brothers in January 2002, their parents had already taken off to join other snowbirds in sunny Arizona.

A good part of the Vermeulen farm is situated on a very rugged Saskatchewan landscape called the Missouri Coteau. This wide ridge of rolling, rocky hills, still largely covered by native prairie, can be followed from the USA border to North Battleford. These hills are almost continuous, but stop abruptly near Ceylon and continue further north, creating what locals call The Gap.

Mark and Grant Vermeulen's mixed farming operation encompasses 2500 acres of pasture and hay land in the Coteau, and 6000 acres of cultivated soils on flatter land nearby. Elder brother Mark explained that their herd of Charolais cows has expanded from 50 purebreds when he was a kid, to over 300 now.

"I guess we can credit the PFRA pasture system for helping with our herd expansion," said Mark.

Over the years the Vermeulens' have become patrons at three PFRA community pastures: The Gap, west of Ceylon; Brokenshell, northeast of Radville; and Wreford, near the north end of Last Mountain Lake near Nokomis. Their own grazing capacity more than doubled in 1988 when they purchased ten quarters of native prairie from neighbour Alvin Dehnke. The Dehnke place, now simply called "The Ranch," is home to younger brother Grant Vermeulen.

"I'm more the grain farmer. Or should I say the pulse crop farmer," said Grant with a smile.

We had convened at the breakfast table of his brother Mark and sister-in-law Ashlee Vermeulen. A beautiful dawn was lighting a low bank of clouds in hues of fiery red and mauve. Ashlee was overseeing the feeding of her twin daughters, Halle and Cassidy, age two. As the girls slurped on their frozen yogurt and chewed peanut butter on toast, the conversation turned to wildlife.

"We have two small lakes on the place called Elsie Lake and Marjorie Lake," said Grant. *"Both are alkali lakes not suited to cattle watering, but they attract thousands of geese and quite a few kinds of shorebirds."*

One kind of shorebird that regularly nests along the shores of these lakes is called the Piping Plover. Back in 1990, when wildlife conservation agencies across North America began to realize the Piping Plovers might be in danger of extinction, a number of surveys were done.

When both Elsie and Marjorie Lakes were identified as Piping Plover habitat, the Vermeulens began to take more interest in the birds.

"We are really lucky to be set up where we are," noted Mark. *"Quite a few conservation groups have taken an interest in the wildlife habitat around here."*

Mark went on to describe the activities of a USA technical group called the Delta Waterfowl Project that set up its headquarters in an unused school in Ceylon. *"They were really interested in the nesting success of ducks, especially Pintails, and they asked us if we would assist them by driving our air-seeder over "duck nests" that they had set up in our stubble field. They bought chicken eggs from the Hutterites and fabricated these nests. I was surprised to learn that 75-80 percent of the eggs survived being driven over by the air-seeder."*

The Vermeulens' interest in wildlife, native prairie and soil conservation is quite apparent.

"All of our marginal land, sandy spots, has

been seeded back to grass," said Mark. *"Our seeded grass is grazed early in the year and the native prairie is left for later in the summer. Any of our rough land that is too hard to seed, stoney, or close to wetlands is left for wildlife."*

In addition to the waterfowl and shorebirds that inhabit Elsie and Marjorie Lakes, the Vermeulens often observe mule deer, Hungarian partridge and sharp-tailed grouse. An especially novel wildlife sighting occurred last June when a huge black moose walked across one of the alkali lakes in broad daylight. *"I wouldn't have thought anything could cross that lake,"* said Grant.

Ashlee Vermeulen, who grew up in another part of the hilly Missouri Coteau near Gladmar is especially fond of the crocuses that appear on their native prairie each spring. *"When these two are a bit older,"* she said, referring to her twin toddlers, *"we are going for walks to look at the wild flowers in the pasture."*

The Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation (SWCC), with the Vermeulens' permission, has been keeping track of Piping Plover nesting activity on Elsie and Marjorie Lakes for about ten years. In the fall of 2001, after being contacted by Ross Macdonald, the Vermeulens decided to further contribute to Piping Plover recovery efforts.

This demonstration project, already completed, saw the Vermeulens install about two miles of barbed-wire fencing to exclude cattle from the lake shores. Undisturbed shoreline habitat is good for Piping Plovers and other shorebirds and waterfowl whose nests are often trampled and destroyed by cattle, or exposed to predators as a result of spring cattle grazing.

"Fencing out these alkali lakes is to our advantage too, and since we can run our land the way we want to, we did it," said Grant. The Vermeulens' agreement with SWCC, who paid for the fencing materials, does not stipulate conditions of use. If the Vermeulens decide to graze the fenced buffer zone around the lakes, they will probably wait until the nestlings have learned to fly.

"I would go as far as putting up nest baskets out there (for ducks and geese), but we would not agree to keeping the cattle out all year round," added Grant.

The Vermeulens, now signed up as Native Prairie Stewards - a conservation program sponsored by SWCC, are looking forward to many more years on their family farm.

Grant, who admits an interest in learning more about harvesting native grass seed, says native grass is best because it always grows when the weather turns dry in spring. *"It's too bad we don't have more native prairie,"* says brother Mark. *"The calves that come off the native grass in the fall are solid as a rock."*

Rare Plant Rescue Program

Nature Saskatchewan is launching **Rare Plant Rescue**. The program is aimed at informing private landowners about rare and endangered plant species on their property and giving them information so they can make informed stewardship decisions about how to manage and protect these special plant species.

Target species for the project this year are:

Hairy Prairie Clover
Sand Verbena
Slender Mouse-Ear Cress
Small White Lady's Slipper
Tiny Crypanthe
Western Spiderwort

We are also interested in the following species, expected to be included in future years:

Beaked Annual Skeleton Weed
Buffalograss
Bur Ragweed
Plain's Grape-fern
Powell's Saltbush
Prickly Milk-vetch
Small Lupine
Smooth Arid Goosefoot
Upland Evening Primrose

If you are one of the few fortunate people that have land supporting a rare plant, we would like to hear from you. For more **information** about the rare plants, our program, or to **report** a rare plant location, **contact** Candace Elchuk, the Rare Plant Rescue Coordinator for Nature Saskatchewan, at 780-9268 in Regina or Toll Free at 1-800-667-4668, or by email at **rpr@naturesask.com**.

Slender Mouse-Ear Cress

Win-Win for Landowners and Fish

The Qu'Appelle River system is a unique and very important watershed. It stretches across more than 400 km of the province and is home to a number of occupants, including fish, wildlife, agricultural producers and recreational users. There is one species of sucker, known as the bigmouth buffalo fish that has been drawing attention due to its declining population. Since these fish are unique to the Qu'Appelle River system, efforts are ongoing to protect their habitat. In order to protect and enhance their potential spawning habitats we are dependent on the cooperation of individual landowners within the Qu'Appelle watershed. This cooperation includes such activities as providing permanent cover suitable for spawning habitat, maintaining streambanks in good condition to protect the water quality and provide habitat, and controlling erosion. These practices will not only be a benefit to the bigmouth buffalo fish but to other wildlife species and to the landowners as well.

The Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation is working with landowners to encourage improved land-use and conservation techniques through its streambank riparian, wetland and native prairie habitat programs.

If you have any questions about SWCC's programs or riparian management in the Qu'Appelle River watershed, please call Stephanie Edge at 787-1786 or email: sedge25@wetland.sk.ca

Conservation Cover Program to Continue

The Government of Saskatchewan is providing the province's producers with $3.9 million under the 2002 Conservation Cover Program to convert land to perennial cover.

The Conservation Cover Program will provide producers with an average payment of up to $15 per acre for a maximum of 50 acres to seed land in annual crop production to perennial cover.

An initial acreage payment of $7.50 per acre (maximum 50 acres) or $375 will be paid to eligible applicants. Depending on program uptake, a second and final acreage payment of up to $7.50 per acre will be prorated among all eligible applicants who received the initial acreage payment. This final payment will automatically be forwarded to eligible applicants (funding permitting).

Saskatchewan Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization agrologists will also provide the necessary help to set up perennial cover.

Application forms are available from the Rural Service Centres, Rural Municipal offices or from the department's web site at: www.agr.gov.sk.ca.

For more information phone 1-877-874-5365.

Coming Events

Riparian Health Assessment Workshop
Tuesday, June 25
The Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation is holding a riparian health assessment workshop in the Qu'Appelle. You are invited to come out and learn how to determine the health of riparian areas and how management practices affect these areas.

Itinerary

9:00 Meet at McLean's Café on Front Street in Wolseley
9:30 Presentation on riparian health assessment and management
11:30 Load into vans
12:00 Bagged lunch in the field
12:30 Conduct riparian health assessments at first site
2:30 Conduct riparian health assessment at second site
4:30 Return to McLean's Café in Wolseley
5:00 Steak barbecue supper

Cost is $15/person or $25/couple and includes bagged lunch, transportation and steak barbecue supper following the workshop.

For more information or to pre-register please contact Stephanie Edge (306) 787-1786 or Cari-Lyn Epp (306) 787-0782.

This workshop is being sponsored by:
Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation, Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration

◆◆◆◆

Livestock watering and range management field day
Thursday, June 27
Bursay/Lucky Lake
Topics:
- solar powered water pumps
- rotational grazing
- native grass identification
- wildlife and range management
- riparian management

Meet at 8:30 at the Bursay Community Hall. Tour stops include the Coteau PFRA pasture and King George Grazing Co-op.

Cost is $5 and includes lunch, supper and transportation. Call Cari-Lyn at 787-1782 to pre-register and for more information.

Sponsored by Ducks Unlimited Canada, SaskPower, PFRA and Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation through the Agricultural Environmental Stewardship Initiative.

◆◆◆◆

Grazing Management Trail Ride
July 4, 2002
White Ranches
9:00 am – 5:00 pm
You will see:
- Shallow stock water pipeline system
- Solar stock water pumping
- Range monitoring methods
- Native plant ID
- Leafy spurge & Russian knapweed
- Archaeological sites
- Beautiful scenery

Cost: $10 per person (includes bag lunch and drinks)

Register by calling the Shaunavon Rural Service Centre 297-5450. Registration deadline is July 2nd.

All riders must provide their own horse. Those not wanting to ride a horse can follow in their vehicle.

◆◆◆◆

Grazing Management Field Day
Wednesday, July 31, 2002
Assiniboia, SK
9:00am – 6:30pm
Cost: $20 (Transportation, lunch and supper provided)
Topics:
-rotational grazing systems
-stock water pumping
-native/tame plant ID
-tame forage establishment/seed production
-riparian enhancement projects

Join us for a look at what livestock producers are doing to improve grazing management and wildlife habitat in your area.

Sponsors:
Sask. Ag. Food & Rural Revitalization, Extension PFRA,
Sask. Wetland Conservation Corporation

Register by calling the Assiniboia Rural Service Centre at 642-7225, or for more information call Bob Springer at (306) 778-8954

◆◆◆◆

Swift Current Creek Watershed Enhancement Field Day
Wednesday, August 7, 2002
Swift Current, SK
(meet at the Palliser Pavilion)
9:00am – 6:30pm
Cost: $20 (Transportation, lunch and supper provided)
Topics:
-rotational grazing systems
-stock water pumping
-native/tame plant ID
-tame forage establishment/seed production
-riparian enhancement projects

Join us for a look at what livestock producers are doing to improve grazing management, water quality and wildlife habitat in the Swift Current Creek watershed.

Sponsors:
Sask. Ag. Food & Rural Revitalization, Extension PFRA
Sask. Wetland Conservation Corporation
Swift Current Creek Watershed Stewards

Register by calling the Swift Current Rural Service Centre at 778-8284, or for more information call Bob Springer at (306) 778-8954

◆◆◆◆

Shaunavon Field Day
Thursday, August 8, 2002
Shaunavon, SK
9:00am – 6:30pm
Cost: $20 (Transportation, lunch and supper provided)
Topics:
-rotational grazing systems
-stock water pumping
-native/tame plant ID
-tame forage establishment/seed production
-riparian enhancement projects

Join us for a look at what livestock producers are doing to improve grazing management, water quality and wildlife habitat in the Swift Current Creek watershed.

Sponsors:
Sask. Ag. Food & Rural Revitalization, Extension PFRA,
Sask. Wetland Conservation Corporation
Swift Current Creek Watershed Stewards

Register by calling the Shaunavon Rural Service Centre at 297-5450, or for more information call Bob Springer at (306) 778-8954

◆◆◆◆

Please Note: Additional field days and workshops will be held at the following locations:
- July 19 field day at Rocanville
- July 22 field day at Chaplin
- July 24 field day at Monet PFRA Pasture
- July 30 field day at Rockglen
- August 7 field day at Markinch
- Sept 7-8 Riparian Health Workshop, Regina
- Sept 14 Riparian Health Workshop, Saskatoon
- Sept 17-18(19) Riparian Health Workshop, Saskatoon

For more details concerning these events please call (306) 787-0726 or check our web page at www.wetland.sk.ca under calendar of events.

Share Your Ideas . . .

Anyone with story ideas or coming events is welcome to share them with us at:

Attention: Jennifer Lohmeyer
#101 - 2022 Cornwall Street
Regina, SK. S4P 2K5
Phone: (306) 787 - 8707
Fax: (306) 787 - 0780
Email: jlohmeyer@wetland.sk.ca
Web site: www.wetland.sk.ca

The Native Prairie Update is a publication of:

Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation

Our Gracious Supporters

The Native Prairie Stewardship Program gratefully acknowledges the support of:

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through:
- Agriculture Institute of Management in Saskatchewan, Inc. (AIMS)
- Canadian Adaptation and Rural Development Fund in Saskatchewan (CARDS)
- Canada/Saskatchewan Green Plan Agreement
- Agricultural Environmental Stewardship Initiative

Canada Millenium Partnership Program
Canada Trust Friends of the Environment Foundation
Canadian Wildlife Service and World Wildlife Fund through:
- Endangered Species Recovery Fund

Ducks Unlimited Canada
Environment Canada through Eco-ACTION
Government of Canada Habitat Stewardship Program
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (U.S.)
Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management through:
- Fish and Wildlife Development Fund

SaskPower Shand Greenhouse
Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation
Wildlife Habitat Canada